

TIP OF THE

July 8, 2005

Incirlik Air Base, Turkey



Something to do

Programs for all at community center

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On the cover:

Kyra Jones, daughter of Tech. Sgt. Karen Bright, 728th Air Mobility Squadron, plays one of the games available at the Incirlik Community Activity Center. The center also has videos and computers for anyone to use free of charge. See related article, Page 8. (Photo by Airman Dawn Duman)

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American dream alive, well

By Staff Sgt. Cat Casaigne
 355th Wing Public Affairs

DAVIS-MONTHAN AIR FORCE BASE, Ariz. (AFPN) — I am a product of the American Dream.

I was raised on the concept that in America hard work and sheer determination can lead to a better life than you ever thought possible for your family.

As I helped my grandmother cook, or as my grandfather walked me to school, I was reminded of the opportunities and blessings America has bestowed on my family.

My grandparents were born in Malta, a tiny island in the Mediterranean south of Sicily, Italy. My grandfather's family ran a successful hotel business and my grandfather had the benefits of privileged childhood. My grandmother's family, in comparison, was much more humble. She was one of 11 children and her father was a nurse.

When my grandmother was in fifth grade and my grandfather in sixth, their childhoods were shattered. Malta, at the time an English commonwealth, entered World War II. Because of its strategic naval location, Malta would become the most heavily bombed nation (per square mile) of the war.

My grandmother was pulled from school and my grandfather from his tutors to run to the shelters for cover during countless air

raids. Soon, all school lessons stopped and staying alive became the name of the game. Once, my grandmother was in church during an air raid. A bomb broke through the dome of the church. Luckily, it did not go off.

Food was scarce. My grandmother's father would sneak food from the hospital to feed his children. Most of the time, he could only manage enough for one, which they would all split. My grandmother tells a story where her father sneaked home a cupcake and divided it into 11 pieces for the children.

My grandfather does not like to talk about the hardships his family endured.

As soon as my grandfather was old enough, he joined the English Royal Navy. Because of his hotel background and upper-class upbringing, he was assigned as Prince Phillip's steward. He served until the end of the war and went back to Malta.

Like most families there, his had lost everything in the devastation of the war. The hotel business was gone and with it, his family's place in upper society.

Having nothing, he decided to go to Canada to start his own life. About that same time he met my grandmother. However, when she would not leave her family and marry him, he left for Canada.

While living in Canada, he wrote letters

See **Dream**, Page 3



Extreme Summer is a U.S. Air Forces in Europe program that gives points and prizes for using base facilities and programs. Play to win prizes, trips, cars and more. Visit any services facility to register or log on to www.extremesummer.com.

It only takes 300 points to qualify for a

chance to win one of the monthly prize drawings for a trip to the Edelweiss Lodge and Resort in Garmisch, Germany.

The Community Center is the Extreme Summer Headquarters here.

For more information, call 6-6966 or visit www.extremesummer.com.

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Continued from Page 2

to my grandmother. Then one day she got a letter saying he was coming back to visit his father and hoped to see her. He set sail for Malta. It proved to be a providential trip. He was there for a few months and sailed back to Canada with his new bride.

He worked in Canada where he and my grandmother had all of their five children. Then, when the oldest was 8 years old, they moved to Ohio, then to Detroit, where he landed a job as a shift supervisor for General Motors.

My grandparents lived in Detroit, raising their children on the customs and values of a country they left behind. Always proud, my grandparents tried to teach their children to speak Maltese, but being surrounded by English they never fully spoke Maltese, though they all understood it.

More than 50 years after getting off the boat, my grandparents still live in Detroit and continue to tell the same stories of hardship and overcoming adversity they told me as they cooked and walked me to school.

They remain the cornerstone of our family and represent everything we aspire to be. For 23 years I have listened to their stories and I never tire of them. They tell our

family's history, but more importantly, they tell what we are capable of overcoming.

My grandparents didn't see the American Dream as fame or fortune. To them, the American Dream was opportunity — opportunities for all 22 of their grandchildren go to college.

No, we are not monetarily rich, but we are rich in family, love and pride. As one of the oldest of their grandchildren, I am most proud of their courage. To leave family and friends for an unfamiliar land where no one speaks your language and, in the case of my grandmother, you hardly speak theirs takes courage I will never know. To never see your parents again so you can chase a dream of a better life is something I could not do. But I would never have to.

I am fortunate to serve and live in a country where people immigrate every day, seeking the American Dream. They know only America can provide them with the life they want.

The American Dream is alive and well. It is the reason I only want to live in America, where my version stands a chance of coming true, thanks to the stepping stone my grandparents laid for me.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Shannon Kluge

Headed out

Lt. Gen. Arthur J. Lichte, U.S. Air Forces in Europe vice commander, receives a proper "hose down" after his final flight here June 29. The general departed Ramstein Air Base, Germany, June 30 for his new assignment as Headquarters U.S. Air Force assistant vice chief of staff.

YOUR TURN

What is your favorite holiday and why?

"Christmas, I like that time of year because it's cool and I like giving gifts."

— **Mas-
ter Sgt.
Troy**

Spencer,
39th Air Base Wing Safety Office



"Thanksgiving because I like turkey."

— **Senior
Airman
Laplaca**

Amigo,
39th Maintenance Group



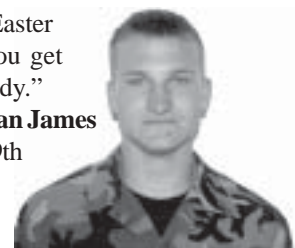
"Christmas because you get to get together with all your family and it has a great reason behind it."

— **Hannah Dennis,** Incirlik family member



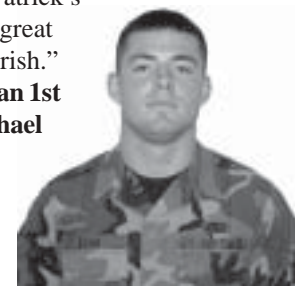
"I like Easter because you get lots of candy."

— **Airman James
Koenig,** 39th
MXG



"Saint Patrick's Day. It's a great day to be Irish."

— **Airman 1st
Class Michael
Egan,** 39th
MXG



To submit a question for "Your Turn," call 6-6060 or e-mail tip.sword@incirlik.af.mil

Incirlik hosts change of command Monday

By Senior Airman Stephanie Hammer
39th ABW Public Affairs

The former vice commander of the 21st Expeditionary Mobility Task Force, McGuire Air Force Base, N.J., is scheduled to take command of the 39th Air Base Wing 9 a.m. Monday in hangar 4.

Col. Murrell Stinnette will succeed Col. Michael Gardiner, 39th Air Base Wing commander, who will be reassigned as the director of Air and Space Operations, Headquarters U.S. Air Forces in Europe, Ramstein Air Base, Germany.

Colonel Stinnette was the vice commander of the 21st EMTF since March 2004. Prior to that, he was commander of the 621st Air Mobility Operations Group at McGuire AFB.

Colonel Stinnette was commissioned in 1980 from Virginia Military Institute, Va. He is a master navigator with more than 5,000 flying hours in the C-130. He has commanded an airlift squadron, an expeditionary operations group during Operation Iraqi Freedom and an air mobility operations group. His staff experience includes Headquarters Air Combat Command, Headquarters Air Education and Training Command, and Headquarters Air Mobility Command.

During his 25-year Air Force career, Colonel Stinnette has earned the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal with five oak leaf clusters, Air Medal with five oak leaf clusters, Aerial Achievement Medal with two oak leaf clusters and Air Force Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster.

A shuttle is provided for transportation to hangar 4 before and after the ceremony. Due to parking limitations, all personnel are required to park at one of the shuttle pick-up locations or walk. The shuttle will stop at building 833/hospital, base exchange/commissary and chapel/bowling alley parking lots.

For more information, call the Public Affairs Office at 6-6060.



Photo by Airman Dawn Duman

Keeping the beat

Deniz Unalmis demonstrates a move for her water aerobics class June 29 at the Incirlik pool. Classes are 6 to 7 p.m. Mondays Wednesdays and Fridays and cost \$30 per month. For more information, call 6-3442.

Lt. Gen. Bishop new USAFE vice commander

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany (USAFENS) – Lt. Gen. Robert D. Bishop Jr. assumed the position of U.S. Air Forces in Europe vice commander Wednesday.

In his new position, General Bishop will conduct and coordinate offensive and defensive air and space operations for U.S. European Command on behalf of the USAFE commander. The general will also be responsible for providing administrative and logistical support to all Air Force units and activities in USAFE's geographical area of responsibility, which includes Europe and Russia, as well as regions in Africa and the Middle East. In addition, he will be in charge of Air Force negotiations with foreign and U.S. officials.

The general said he is excited about his new position.

"USAFE's strategic presence and unparalleled readiness are key enablers for our nation," said General Bishop. "As we continue to sustain and execute the Global War on Terrorism, I can't think of a more exciting place to be than here in USAFE."

"I look forward to the opportunity of building lasting relationships with our host-nation friends and allies and working with the courageous men and women of USAFE, as well as any challenges this new position brings," the general added.

And, General Bishop is up to the challenge, said Gen. Robert H. "Doc" Foglesong, USAFE commander.

"Our efforts today ensure our forces are ready to meet the challenges of the future," said General Foglesong. "General Bishop brings with him the correct strategic vision and focus that's needed to forge ahead as we continue to lead the way for the most respected, all-purpose air and space force in the world."

The general, who is a command pilot with more than 5,300 flight hours in the C-141, T-41 and C-17, was previously assigned as the assistant deputy chief of staff for Air and Space Operations at Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Pentagon. He has extensive wartime and contingency experience, and with tours at four strategic airlift bases, he also has a vast mobility background.

Leaders need guidance on religious discussions

By Staff Sgt. C. Todd Lopez
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Bluesuiters in leadership positions need more guidance and education about when and where it is appropriate to discuss their faith.

That testimony from Lt. Gen. Roger A. Brady, Air Force deputy chief of staff for personnel, came June 28 before the House Armed Service Committee military personnel subcommittee. The general appeared before the committee to discuss recent religious respect issues at the Air Force Academy, Colo.

"We need to teach people in authority that when they are really expressive about their faith, particularly in areas where faith is not the discussion or issue they can put people that are subordinate to them in compromising or untenable positions," the general said.

The academy recently underwent review by a team sent to investigate allegations of religious intolerance at the school. While the report uncovered no systemic religious intoler-

ance, some cadets reported that some leaders had occasionally discussed their faith at inappropriate times or in inappropriate ways. Other cadets reported more egregious displays of religious intolerance on the part of some cadets.

The issue has sparked much recent debate on Capitol Hill, though General Brady testified that some issues might be less debatable than others.

"About egregious behavior such as slurs or disparaging remarks, nobody will debate that with you," the general said. "But what I can say or not say in terms of an expression of my faith is a more difficult issue. That said, we have to provide better guidance to our commanders and senior supervisors on this subject."

General Brady said it would be difficult for Air Force officials to make a list of "do's and don'ts" that commanders could use to determine when it is appropriate to discuss faith, or bring it into the workplace.

"Historically, there has been a reluctance to jump into that well and start making lists of

'this is what you can do,'" he said. "You will always leave something out."

However, the general said commanders can ask themselves questions to determine the appropriateness of religious discussion. Such questions may revolve around what type of relationship people have with those they are talking to. Airmen talking to their peers may have more leeway than those talking to subordinates.

Michael L. Dominguez, acting secretary of the Air Force, recently named Rabbi Arnold Resnicoff the special assistant to the Air Force secretary and chief of staff for values and vision.

Rabbi Resnicoff said his most immediate task will be to advise Mr. Dominguez on how best to implement recommendations made regarding the religious climate at the academy.

Part of his work will be to develop specific guidance about expressions of personal religious beliefs. The forthcoming guidance will emphasize mutual respect and the wingman culture fundamental to all Airmen, officials said.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Bradley Lail

Streaming freedom

Robbie Hill, 3, plays with a red, white and blue streamer at the Country Plains Riding Club booth during the Fourth of July celebration at Arkadas Park Saturday. Activities began with a five kilometer run at 7:30 a.m. and culminated with a fireworks show.

Senate confirms Moseley as next AF Chief of Staff

SANANTONIO (AFP) —

The Senate has confirmed Gen. T. Michael Moseley as the next chief of staff of the Air Force. He is the current Air Force vice chief of staff.

General Moseley met with members of the Senate Armed Services Committee June 29 during his confirmation hearing. Following the approval of the committee, his nomination was forwarded to the full Senate which approved the nomination just before adjourning for the Fourth of July holiday.

During the hearing he said his priorities would be to further refine and improve joint warfighting skills, continue to strengthen the Air Force's greatest asset — its people — and to recapitalize the aging aircraft fleet to meet future warfighting needs.

General Moseley is a command pilot with more than 2,800 hours in the T-37 Tweet, T-38 Talon and F-15 Eagle. He is a graduate of Texas A&M University where he earned both a bachelor's and a master's degree in political science. Besides holding numerous operational assignments, he commanded U.S. Central Command Air Forces and served as Combined Forces Air Component Command commander for operations Southern Watch, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.



Gen. T. Michael Moseley

Dominguez talks about present course in Iraq

Airmen taking fight to the enemy, working toward 'free, sovereign, democratic and prosperous Iraq'

By Tech. Sgt. Melissa Phillips

407th Air Expeditionary Group Public Affairs

TALLIL AIR BASE, Iraq (AFPN) — During the acting secretary of the Air Force's visit to Tallil Air Base, Iraq, June 29, he said part of the reason he came was to pass on a message.

"I want to let you know how deeply appreciated your service is by the men and women of the United States," Michael Dominguez said. "There is a debate in our country about where we are going in Iraq, how long we'll be here and if we should have a deadline on operations here.

"That is a healthy part of our democracy at work, but don't think for a minute that Americans don't support our men and women in uniform," he said, adding that only one outcome is definitive in his mind.

"What is clear and certain is this air base will be a part of a free, sovereign, democratic and prosperous Iraq, because of what you've achieved here today," he said.

As in past wars, he said this battle is not without its risks.

"Iraq is a dangerous place still," Mr. Dominguez said. "The enemy is wily, crafty, tenacious, imaginative ... if you can image the worst possible traits in the enemy — you got it."

Mr. Dominguez said he wished he had a crystal ball to tell Airmen where they would possibly deploy in the future, but said there is one thing he knows for sure.

"The enemy we fight today is global and stateless ... and that global nature is a challenge," he said. "We will go to where states are struggling to control what's happening inside their borders."

To take the fight to the enemy, he said Airmen will have to think outside the box of traditional mission environments of the past.

"The future of the Air Force is expeditionary," Mr. Dominguez said. "It's joint, and it's working with the coalition and a lot of (joint endeavors among various governmental departments).

"You must continue to transform into an expeditionary force, and that's not just an air and space expeditionary force mentality," he said. "That's a whole new mindset. It means changing all your systems, processes and practices to think expeditionary."

He said it also means Airmen will have to learn skills that traditionally were shouldered by their sister service counterparts in the past.

"You'll be in some ugly places in terms of the security environment," Mr. Dominguez said. "We must continue creating Airmen who are comfortable with combat skills.

"In an expeditionary Air Force, the battle is right here, and you'll need to pick up that rifle and engage," he said.



Photo by Master Sgt. Maurice Hessel

Michael Dominguez, acting secretary of the Air Force, speaks with Master Sgt. Lloyd Hesseltine during a visit to Tallil Air Base, Iraq, June 29. Mr. Dominguez told Airmen the importance of the U.S. military's mission in Iraq and what the future image of an Air Force warfighter will look like. Sergeant Hesseltine is assigned to the 777th Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron.

On the flip side of necessary force, he said, is the power of communication.

"Every Airman is an ambassador," he said. "You interface with the men and women of Iraq. You can either help us or set us back by months or years."

It is a privilege and responsibility all servicemembers are aware of worldwide, he said, but asked Airmen to recognize the stakes are higher here.

"We are liberators, not conquerors," he said. "We are here to help create a nation that allows their countrymen to stand up and face the terror their under every day."

As the Fourth of July approaches, Americans will soon gather together to celebrate the tenacity and dedication the forefathers showed when building a nation free from oppressive rule.

While many will be barbecuing and swimming, American servicemembers deployed far from home are monumentally tasked with helping a nation of people struggle from underneath the weight of oppression — to gain their own freedom and independence.

"We are here to find a way to help them celebrate their achievements," Mr. Dominguez said. "That's the skill of an ambassador.

"That's not something we did in the past, but a big piece of what we have to do in the future," he said.

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NASA gives go for space shuttle return to flight

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AFPN) — NASA officials cleared the space shuttle to return to flight. After a two-day flight readiness review meeting at Cape Canaveral, Fla., June 30th senior managers approved a July 13 launch date for the Space Shuttle Discovery.

Retired Col. Eileen Collins, mission commander, and her crew are scheduled to lift off at 3:51 p.m. EDT on the first U.S. space flight since the February 2003 loss of Space Shuttle Columbia.

"After a vigorous, healthy discussion, our team has come to a decision: we're ready to go," said NASA Administrator Michael Griffin after the meeting. "The past two-and-a-half years have resulted in significant improvements that have greatly reduced the risk of flying the shuttle. But we should never lose sight of the fact that space flight is risky.

"The Discovery mission, designated STS-114, is a test flight," Mr. Griffin said, and astronauts will try new safety enhancements. In addition, Discovery will carry 15 tons of supplies and replacement hardware to the International Space Station. July 13 is the beginning of the launch window that closes July 31.

William Readdy, NASA's associate administrator for space operations, chaired the flight readiness review, the meeting that traditionally sets launch dates and assesses the shuttle's fitness to fly.

"Today's decision is an important milestone in returning the shuttle to service for the country. Our technical and engineering teams are

continuing their in-depth preparations to ensure that Eileen and her crew have a successful mission," he said.

Joining Colonel Collins aboard Discovery will be pilot Lt. Col. Jim Kelly and mission specialists Steve Robinson, Andy Thomas, Wendy Lawrence, Charlie Camarda and Soichi Noguchi, a Japanese astronaut. The crew will test design changes that will reduce the chances of damage to the shuttle, procedures for in-flight inspection of the space shuttle heat shield, and repair techniques — all in response to the Columbia accident. The mission also features three spacewalks, including one to replace a space station gyroscope.

Aboard the space station, Cmdr. Sergei Krikalev, a Russian cosmonaut, and flight engineer and NASA station science officer John Phillips will greet Discovery. Commander Krikalev and Mr. Phillips are on a six-month mission. They have been aboard the station since April 17.

Returning the space shuttle to flight is the first step in the Vision for Space Exploration, a plan for humans to journey into the cosmos. The space shuttle will be used to continue construction of the international space station, a crucial test bed for exploration missions.

Information on return to flight, including images, interviews with the crew, and descriptions of improvements to the space shuttle are available online at www.nasa.gov/returntoflight. (Courtesy of NASA public affairs)

Airmen receive punishment for infractions

The following Court-Martial and Article 15s were administered or completed during the months of May and June:

Court-Martial

♦ An airman basic from the 39th Security Forces Squadron was found guilty during a Special Court-Martial for the following infractions under the Uniform Code of Military Justice: failure to go, larceny from the Incirlik Base Exchange and other individuals, and writing bad checks to the Incirlik BX. His sentence consisted of 12 months confinement, forfeiture of \$823 pay for 12 months and a bad conduct discharge.

Article 15s

♦ An airman 1st class from the 39th Com-

munications Squadron received an Article 15 for being absent without leave. His punishment consisted of reduction to E-1, forfeiture of \$571 pay for one month, 45 days extra duty and 30 days restriction to base. The reduction to E-1, forfeiture of \$286 pay and 15 days of extra duty were suspended contingent on the member's good behavior for the next six months. After four additional violations for being absent without leave, this suspended punishment was imposed on the member.

♦ A senior airman from the 39th Operations Squadron received an Article 15 for drunk driving and destruction of government property. His punishment consisted of a reduction to E-3 and 45 days extra duty.

IN THE NEWS

Sultan's Inn closure

The Sultan's Inn Dining Facility is closed until 4:30 a.m. Saturday for hood and exhaust system cleaning. For more information, call Andrew Pastula at 6-6016.

AFIT opportunity

For non-rated lieutenants and captains, the National Reconnaissance Office is soliciting candidates for advanced education opportunities. For more information, call Frank DiNatale at 6-3211.

Sports physicals

Appointments are available in the pediatric clinic every Thursday afternoon, except the third Thursday of every month, through the end of August. For more information or to make an appointment, call 6-6173 or 6-6174.

Pet Travel in EU Countries

Due to changes in the European Union law, pets PCSing from Turkey to EU countries require a rabies antibody sample prior to their arrival into an EU country. Pets need to have a blood sample taken at the Incirlik Veterinary Treatment Facility for testing. Testing must be done at least 90 days in advance of travel and at least 30 days after rabies vaccination. Pets traveling to the UK, Hawaii, Guam and Japan are required to have a test at least 180 days before travel. Pets traveling to the United States require only a health certificate issued within 10 days of travel and a current rabies vaccine for entry. For more information, call 6-3119.

Vehicle inspections

A car needs to have a safety inspection every two years and a van, truck or sport utility vehicle must have a safety inspection every year. Emissions tests are conducted every year for all vehicles. For more information, call pass and identification at 6-6617.

TDY travel vouchers

Personnel going TDY for 45 days or more must bring a copy of their travel orders to finance customer service. For more information, call 6-6306 or e-mail 39cpts.customerservice@incirlik.af.mil.

Something to do

Classes, trips, family fun available at community center

By Senior Airman Jessica Switzer

39th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

Ever dream of tickling the ivories, belly dancing, strumming on the guitar or speaking another language? The Incirlik Community Activity Center can help.

"We have classes like piano, cooking, guitar, oriental dance, Turkish and English language classes and lots of others," said Nihat Isbilir, community center cyber lounge manager. "We have 10 computers free for public use. They have Internet capabilities too. Sometimes they're a little slow, but usually it's pretty quick."

Other things available at the center include a number of video games and consoles people can use in a special area set aside for gamers.

"You can't take the games outside the building, they're not for rent," said Mr. Isbilir. "They can be played on the consoles we have here though."

The center has videos people may watch on one of the two televisions in the center as well as an area for younger children to play while their parents are taking care of other business.

"Our commander decided to have a space for kids to play while their parents are on the computer or in the car insurance office where they would be safe and out of mom and dad's hair," he said. "We have a few toys for them to climb around on and play with."

New activities for base people are in the works.

"We're trying to offer more family-oriented activities like our new family night," said Wiyada Lee, who recently took over as the community center director in June. "On the second and fourth Mondays of the month we're going to set up a bouncy castle and offer crafts and face painting. People can order food from the bowling center. It's just a chance for parents to have dinner and a fun time with their children."

Mrs. Lee is also trying to expand and improve the balloon shop in the front of the center.

"We're going to offer gift baskets for different special occasions and get a broader selection," she said. "We also are going to get together themed birthday decoration packages, like Strawberry Shortcake or Barney."

The community center is open for anyone who wants to use it.

"We are open for public use for both nations," said Mr. Isbilir. "Anyone can come in and use our services and facilities."

There are a number of families on the base who home school their children and Mrs. Lee has set up a program that gives these families

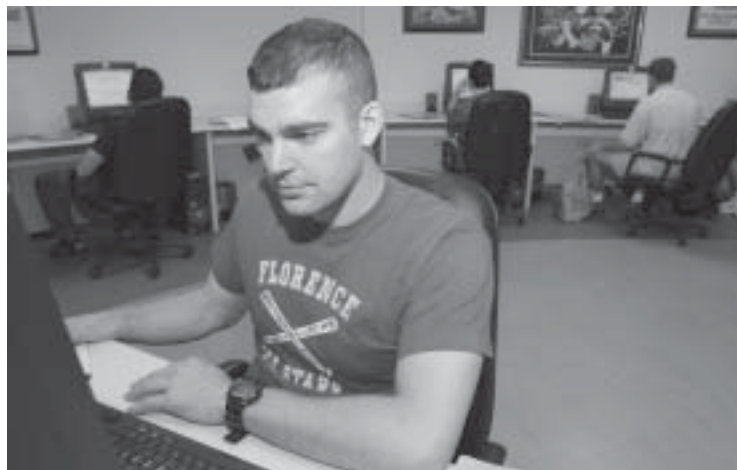


Photo by Airman Dawn Duman

1st Lt. Ryan Stolmeier, formerly with the 385th Air Expeditionary Group, uses the internet at the Incirlik Community Activity Center. There are 10 computers available for people to use for free.

a chance to get together and share ideas on technique and where to get the best materials.

"The parents can share ideas or just get to know other families who home school," said Mrs. Lee. "The children can also get to know other children who are doing the same thing. It gets every one a chance to get together."

Though the community center has a number of family programs in place, Mrs. Lee is looking for other ideas for programs.

"We don't have much for the unaccompanied Airmen in the dorms," she said. "I'd like to get some programs started. They are the priority of our program so I would really like to know what kinds of things they want to see. If there is anyone out there with any ideas they can bring them to me and I'll see if I can make them happen."

There are some things everyone may be interested in like the Dinner in Adana program.

"A lot of people are looking for restaurants in Adana and just don't know where to go," said Mrs. Lee. "This is a chance for them to go out with other people and experience some of the good and inexpensive restaurants off base and out of the 'Alley.'"

The cutoff for the next Dinner in Adana is July 15. People who are interested can call 6-6966 so get more information or to sign up.

The community center is also the headquarters for Extreme Summer 2005.

"People can come in and get 50 points just for visiting," said Mrs. Lee. "Once you get 300 points you are eligible to win onto the prize drawings held each month."

In fact, Staff Sgt. Naomi Frese, 39th Comptroller Squadron customer support technician, won a trip to the Edelweiss Lodge and Resort in Garmisch, Germany.

"Every time you visit or use a 39th Services Squadron facility you earn points," Mrs. Lee said. "You just log them onto www.extremesummer.com. To win one of the big prizes, like the trip to Walt Disney World, you have to be in the top three percent of all the people in the system. So after you earn your 300 points don't stop logging."

Community Activity Center

The Incirlik Community Activity Center is open seven days a week:

Mondays through Fridays from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Saturdays from noon to 8 p.m.

Sundays from noon to 6 p.m.

For more information on any of the activities or classes, call 6-6966.



Ask MEHMET

By Mehmet Birbiri, *Host Nation Adviser*

Greased Wrestling

Question: Mehmet, I heard a lot about wrestling and was wondering if it is the same in Turkey as it is in the United States?

Response: Turkish people love wrestling. Turks consider it one of their national sports. Wrestling tournaments are held throughout Turkey on different dates for various reasons.

Turks have always been recognized as good wrestlers. In the old days, and still in some villages, wrestling matches are part of the wedding ceremonies. The prize for the winner is always a sheep and money.

Turkey's oldest sports event, the 644th Kirkpinar Grease Wrestling Tournament, took place June 27. More than 1,000 wrestlers of all ages and weights take part in the tournament.

Grease wrestling and the tournament date back to 1361 and the reign of Sultan Murat I, an Ottoman Sultan. The first tournament was held in *Kirkpinar*, Edirne, near Istanbul, close to the Bulgarian border. The tournament has been held at the same place for the past six centuries, without interruption.

Today, the traditions of the Kirkpinar Grease Wrestling Tournament remain intact.

While musicians beat their drums and blow their flutes the "cazgir" or cheerleader announces the wrestlers and chant prayers. This prepares the wrestlers and whips up the audience's enthusiasm.

Oil pourers help the wrestlers cover their bodies with olive oil before the contest, and water pourers help them bathe afterward. Olive oil was introduced to the game to emphasize the wrestlers' skill rather than their sheer strength.

After their initial oiling, the wrestlers advance to the field and salute the master of Kirkpinar and the spectators. Wearing specially sewn leather pants called *kispet*, the wrestlers perform ritual movements in a display of strength, suppleness and courage while challenging each other as the *cazgir* chants the prayers.



Courtesy photo

Wrestlers from all over Turkey get together every year during the last week of June to pit their strength and skill against each other in the Kirkpinar Wrestling Tournament. The wrestlers are doused with olive oil before each bout to emphasize skill over strength. The tradition extends back to Ottoman times.

As the prayers end, the wrestlers select their opponents, salute each other with symbolic gestures of solidarity and begin to wrestle. Drums beat continuously throughout the game.

Most of the time the president of Turkey watches the tournament and awards the prize to the winner. The winner is considered the best wrestler of Turkey for one year and wears the Kirkpinar golden belt.

If a wrestler wins the tournament three years in a row, he keeps the golden belt forever.

While most wrestlers come from within Turkey, wrestlers from Balkan countries like Bulgaria and Macedonia have started taking part in recent years.

There is a tale behind Turkey's wrestling tradition. The Ottoman Turks, after founding their state in Anatolia, started expanding westward toward Europe.

Pioneer warriors lead the way for the Ottoman armies. The tale says that while 40 warriors were on a mission, they decided to spend a night near Edirne. After having their dinner, they all started to wrestle — the traditional time-killing event — with 19 pairs finishing their matches.

One pair couldn't determine a winner. So they wrestled all night while their friends fell asleep. When their friends woke up in the morning, both of the wrestlers were dead, still holding each other.

Their friends said they saw water coming out of a spring by their bodies. That area was named *Kirkclarin Pinari* meaning "spring of the forties." This was changed to *Kirkpinar* later on. Since then, the annual tournament has been held in their memory.

In Turkish

gures - wrestling
(gue - rash)

pehlivan - wrestler
(pah - lee - vaughn)

zeytinyag - olive oil
(zay - teen - yaa)

turnuva - tournament
(tour - noo - vah)

sampiyon - champion
(sham - pee - yon)

Do you have a question about something Turkish? Ask Mehmet. To submit a question, call 6-6060 or e-mail mehmet.birbiri@incirlik.af.mil

Liberty, freedom: An Airman's journey

By Maj. Dani Johnson

5th Bomb Wing Base Public Affairs

MINOT AIR FORCE BASE, N.D. (AFPN) — Imagine living in a society where the length of a man's hair or a woman's skirt is determined by the government; where liberty and freedom are nonexistent to the majority. Sound far-fetched? Not for one Airman at Minot Air Base, N.D.; it is how he grew up.

Chaplain (Capt.) Jin Choi, 5th Bomb Wing chaplain, was born in South Korea in 1964 and spent his first 19 years in Seoul under the reign of President Park Chung-hee.

“(President Park) was a military dictator and took over the country for more than 20 years. There was nobody to compete with him,” Chaplain Choi said. “He ran the whole country, and since the military was in charge, whatever he wanted, happened.”

The United Methodist chaplain realized something was not right in his birth country when he was in junior high, and then more obviously, while in high school.

“If you said something against the president or the government, you would just disappear somewhere, your career and possibly your family would be ruined,” he said. “You were told what to wear, what to look like. With the guys, if your hair was too long, the cops would get you, and since they carried scissors, they would cut your hair right there on the street.

“Everything was regulated. We didn't wear uniforms in elementary school, but in junior high and high school we did,” the chaplain said. “I went to the first westernized high school started by an American Methodist minister. When dignitaries came in, we would have to go out into the streets and wave flags. I didn't like it. One time I just went home, and later the teacher took roll call and I wasn't there. When I got back to school the next day, I got a beating. Your liberty and freedom was very limited.”

Chaplain Choi immigrated to the United States with his parents, brother and sister in 1984. He entered college and then went to seminary.

“I was gung-ho. I was really happy to get out of (South Korea),” he said. “The process was not fast; the paperwork started when I was about 14 years old and took (about) five years. We kept waiting and waiting for when we would get to go to America.”

After finishing seminary, the new pastor was sent to a “deserted” area in upstate New York outside of the Catskills Mountains about two hours away from his family in New York City.

“My wife, two girls and I spent two years in the Catskills and wanted a church in the city close to family; as a new pastor, I felt I had paid my dues,” he said. “The process was slow, and I wasn't getting what I wanted, and I started thinking about the military families who weren't near their families. I began looking at becoming a chaplain. While I was looking, I got a call from the bishop about an opening on Long Island, so I pulled away from the idea of becoming a chaplain.”

Later, after a discussion with a retired Army chaplain about being a military chaplain serving those who were serving their country, Chaplain Choi was inspired, he said. One day, a friend called and told him to look at an announcement for chaplains with the New York Air National Guard's 106th Rescue Wing in Westhampton Beach.

“I didn't even know there was an Air National Guard base on the island. I applied, and this was my first contact with the Air Force chaplaincy,” he said. “I was the youngest candidate at 36 years, and



Photo by Airman Christopher Boitz

Chaplain (Capt.) Jin Choi (right) talks with Senior Airman LeJanena Manzay at Minot Air Force Base, N.D. Chaplain Choi grew up in South Korea and immigrated to the United States with his parents at age 19. Chaplain Choi is a 5th Bomb Wing chaplain, and Airman Manzay is a 5th Logistics Readiness Squadron supply apprentice.

the wing chaplain chose me. I joined in December 2000.

“I stepped into the Air National Guard, and it was so nice — it was like family,” the chaplain said. “The chaplains and chaplains' assistants were all in one area mingling together. It was a nice experience; we took care of families.”

Chaplain Choi had served the civilian church on Long Island for five years but was not sure whether he wanted to continue, so he called the Air Force active-duty chaplains personnel office and was told he had missed the selection board. Shortly after, however, he was called and told there was another board. He applied, and just one day before his 40th birthday he entered active duty.

“It's been a very interesting process I've gone through. I was in a very repressive society, then came to America and was like a bird released from its cage,” he said.

“I believe how you are brought up — I had three years of military training in high school — comes back later, and you start kind of missing it. When you are a child or teenager, your early years of training are so important,” Chaplain Choi said. “I'm comfortable with that, and since I went to a high school where I received basic military training, I was used to (the military). While I was reluctant at first, in the back of my mind I knew I could deal with it.”

Liberty and freedom are two things the chaplain does not take for granted, he said. He knows there is no liberty or freedom without boundaries. He enjoys the chance to serve Airmen by using God to empower and strengthen them to go on with their life.

“I think within American people, especially the young people, we abuse liberty and freedom so much. We often forget there is a responsibility to keep liberty and freedom, and (we) take it for granted,” he said. “We don't think about the so many people out there, especially in third-world countries, people who don't have liberty and freedom. We must continue to fight and work with them.”

THE INCIRLIK GUIDE

Club Complex

There is a club membership appreciation dinner from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday. For more information, call 6-6010.

Golf events

A two person throw-out outing is 8 a.m. July 16. Entry fee is \$10. Couples scramble is 4:30 p.m. July 24. Entry fee is \$5. The Wilson Handicap outing is 8 a.m., July 30. Entry fee is \$10. For more information, call 6-8995.

Youth center

The youth center is taking sign ups for Soccer Camp 9 a.m. July 10 to July 16 for ages 5-18. The cost is \$20 for members and \$25 for nonmembers. For more information, call 6-6670.

Riding lessons

The Country Plains Riding Club offers horsemanship classes for children and adults throughout the summer. For more information, call Angela Hill at 6-2153 or Dawn Welton at 6-5234.

Stars and strikes

People can participate in the Stars and Strikes program at the Magic Carpet Bowling Center for a chance to win prizes until Aug. 14. For more information, call 6-6789.

Family learning

Department of Defense Education Activity is sponsoring a Summer Family Learning Web page. Links provided lead to a number of Web sites for students and parents. For more information, go to www.dodea.edu/instruction/cirriculum/SummerLearning.

Women's soccer

The base women's soccer team meets 6:30 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays at the high school soccer field and Fridays at the fitness center. The team is looking for an assistant coach who is knowledgeable and available for travel in October. For more information, call Stephanie Moore at 6-6810.

WARRIOR OF THE WEEK



Tech. Sgt. Ebru Schiller
39th Mission Support Group
Information Management Chief

Time in service: 11 years

Hometown: Izmir, Turkey

Time on station: 8 months

Hobbies: Volleyball, exercising, traveling, music and movies. But most of all, spending time with my husband, Randy, and our daughter, Melissa.

Why did you join the Air Force?

I joined the Air Force for education and travel opportunities.

What do you like the most about Incirlik?

I like visiting the historical sites around this area and shopping the best.

How do you contribute to the mission?

I provide executive, administrative and workgroup management support to the 39th Mission Support Group commander and staff.

What is your favorite motto and why?

"A pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity ... an optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty." Having a positive outlook on life's challenges will always benefit you in the long run.

What Air Force core value best describes you and why?

Excellence in all we do ... I believe that by setting high expectations upon myself and giving my best effort, I can always get the best results in all aspects of my life.

Supervisor's quote:

"Tech. Sgt. Schiller is a standout professional achieving premier results in a demanding group position; she is the warfighter's expert," said 1st Lt. Andy Lafollette, 39th Mission Support Group executive officer. "She is a multi-faceted individual who can be counted on to manage multiple projects at once and put her dynamic workgroup manager abilities to the test by troubleshooting and fixing computer challenges. Her professional demeanor operates as the main spoke in the wheel of the 39th MSG – keeping us focused on mission success."



This is the solution for the crossword puzzle published in the July 1 edition of the *Tip of the Sword*. Crossword puzzles are published in the first *Tip of the Sword* edition of every month.

For more information, call 6-6060 or e-mail the *Tip of the Sword* staff at tip.sword@incirlik.af.mil.



Yard sale: A yard sale is 8 a.m. to noon July 16 at 3012B Eskisehir in Phantom Housing. Items for sale include children's toys, clothing, furniture and more. For more information, call Angela Hill at 6-2153.

For sale: Hitachi 29 inch multi-system television and Digiturk satellite dish. \$400 for both. Will sell separately. For more information, call 6-2283.

For Sale: Sectional sofa navy blue, with additional multicolor cushions. Asking \$200 O.B.O. For more information, call 6-2565.



Photos by Airman 1st Class Bradley Lail

Fun in the park

(Left) Aya Martin, 7, tries to throw her ball onto the matching dot in a game called "colors" Saturday at the Fourth of July Celebration in Arkadas Park. (Above) From left to right: Selynn Ancheta, Tiara Smith, Jaclyn Smith and Catherine Peters, all Incirlik family members, perform Michael McGill's Robin Hood with the Missoula Children's Theatre Saturday during the Fourth of July celebration at Arkadas Park.

COMBAT, SPECIAL INTEREST PROGRAM

Project Wizard

The library is accepting photos of castles for their photo contest. Photos can be of any castle anywhere. All ages are welcome to enter the contest. The deadline is Aug. 31. For more information, call 6-6759.

Combat Touch happenings

The **Crossroads Cafe** opens at 7 p.m. Fridays for people over 18 years of age and 6 p.m. Saturdays for all ages. For information, call 6-6441.

Intercessory Prayer Group is 8 a.m. Saturday at the Chapel. For more information, call 6-2188.

Hours for Sunday worship services at the base chapel in building 945 are:

Protestant:

8 a.m. – Traditional worship service
11:15 a.m. – Gospel worship service
6 p.m. – Contemporary service

Catholic:

9 a.m. – Reconciliation
9:30 a.m. – Mass

Daily Mass is 6 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays.

The chapel also has points of contact for Jewish, Wiccan and Jehovah's Witness. For these and any other faiths, call 6-6441.



AT THE OASIS

Today

7 p.m. – XXX: State of the Union (PG-13) – Starring Ice Cube and Samuel L. Jackson. National Security Agency Agent Augustus Gibbons, fresh off the success of his last renegade recruitment, once again finds himself in need of an outsider. (112 minutes)

9:15 p.m. – Monster-In-Law (PG-13) – Starring Jennifer Lopez and Jane Fonda. Unlucky in love, beautiful 'Charlie' has finally met the man of her dreams, Dr. Kevin Fields. There's just one problem – his mother Viola. Fearing she will lose her son's affections as she has her career, Viola decides to break up the couple, and become the world's worst mother-in-law. (96 minutes)

Saturday

4:15 p.m. – Star Wars: Episode III- Revenge of the Sith (PG-13)(1st Run) – Starring Ewan McGregor and Hayden Christensen. Three years after the battle of Geonosis, the Clone wars are coming to a close. Obi – Wan Kenobi, now a general dispatched by the republic to bring down Count Dooku and General Grievous. Chancellor Palpatine has become corrupt and with Anakin Skywalker, begins to turn the Republic into the Galactic Empire. (146 minutes)

7:45 p.m. – Monster-In-Law (PG-13) – Starring Jennifer Lopez and Jane Fonda. (96 minutes)

Sunday

7 p.m. – House of Wax (R) – Starring Elisha Cuthbert and Chad Michael Murray. A group of friends on their way to a college football game falls prey to a pair of murderous brothers in an abandoned small town. Now the group must find a way out before they become permanent exhibits in the House of Wax. (115 minutes)

Thursday

7 p.m. – A Lot Like Love (PG-13) – Starring Ashton Kutcher and Amanda Peet. Oliver and Emily met on a flight from Los Angeles to New York seven years ago, each declaring that they couldn't be more wrong for each other. However, life keeps bringing them back together over the next seven years. As they each search for love, it takes them seven years to figure out that maybe what they have is something. (107 minutes)

AT THE M1

War of the Worlds (PG-13) — 11:30 a.m., 2 p.m., 4:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. (110 minutes)

Mr. and Mrs. Smith (PG-13) — 1:30 p.m., 2 p.m., 4:15 p.m., 6:45 p.m. and 9:15 p.m. (122 minutes)

Movie listings are subject to changes. On-base listings are courtesy of the Army and Air Force Exchange Service Web site at <http://www.aafes.com/ems/euro/incirlik.htm>; M-1 listings are courtesy of the Tempe Cinemaxx Web site at www.tepecinemaxx.com.tr. For more Oasis information and updates, call the movie recording at 6-6986 or the theater office at 6-9140.